

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1-11, 13, and 14 and ADD new claim 16 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A noise countermeasure determination method for determining a noise countermeasure with respect to an analyzing circuit that is to be analyzed and is categorizable into a plurality of transmission circuit topologies depending on manners in which wirings are connected, wherein a transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit differs depending on each of the transmission circuit topologies, said noise countermeasure determination method comprising ~~the step of:~~

(a) obtaining an analyzing circuit judgement result by judging acceptability of the analyzing circuit based on a comparison of features of the analyzing circuit and the transmission circuit topologies; and

outputting an improvement proposal ~~for~~ making the analyzing circuit closer to one of basic types of the transmission circuit topologies depending on the analyzing circuit judgement result.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The noise countermeasure determination method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of:~~

(b) calculating transmission characteristic values of the analyzing circuit based on calculation formulas depending on the judgement result of said ~~step (a)~~ obtaining an analyzing circuit judgement and the transmission circuit topologies;

(c) obtaining a characteristic value judgement result by judging acceptability of the transmission characteristic values, based on judging values;

(d) analyzing an error cause by referring to an error cause file which indicates the error causes depending on error items, using the characteristic value judgement result; and

(e) selecting and outputting an improvement proposal by referring to an improvement proposal file which indicates improvement proposals depending on the error causes, using the error cause analyzed by said ~~step (d)~~ analyzing an error cause.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The noise countermeasure determination method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- (f) analyzing ~~a~~ the transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit using a waveform analyzing tool;
- (g) obtaining a waveform judgement result by judging acceptability of the transmission waveform, based on the judging values;
- (h) analyzing the error cause by referring to the error cause file, using the waveform judgement result; and
- (i) selecting and outputting an improvement proposal by referring to an improvement proposal file which indicates improvement proposals depending on the error causes, using the error cause analyzed by said ~~step (h)~~ analyzing the error cause.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The error countermeasure determination method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- (b) analyzing ~~a~~ the transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit using a waveform analyzing tool;
- (c) obtaining a waveform judgement result by judging acceptability of the transmission waveform, based on judging values;
- (d) analyzing an error cause by referring to an error cause file which indicates the error causes depending on error items, using the waveform judgement result; and
- (e) selecting and outputting an improvement proposal by referring to the improvement proposal file, using the error cause analyzed by said ~~step (d)~~ analyzing an error cause.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The noise countermeasure determination method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

- (b) judging the transmission circuit topology of the analyzing circuit, by referring to a circuit feature file which stores feature information used for judging the transmission circuit topology.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A noise countermeasure determination apparatus for determining a noise countermeasure with respect to an analyzing circuit that is to be analyzed and is categorizable into a plurality of transmission circuit topologies depending on manners in which wirings are connected, wherein a transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit

topologies, said noise countermeasure determination apparatus comprising:

a circuit acceptability judging and output means for obtaining part configured to obtain an analyzing circuit judgement result by judging acceptability of the analyzing circuit based on a comparison of features of the analyzing circuit and transmission circuit topologies, and outputting to output an improvement proposal for making the analyzing circuit closer to one of basic types of the transmission circuit topologies depending on the analyzing circuit judgement result.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The noise countermeasure determination apparatus as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

a calculating means for calculating part configured to output transmission characteristic values of the analyzing circuit based on calculation formulas depending on the judgement result of said circuit acceptability judging and output means part and the transmission circuit topologies;

a characteristic value judging means for obtaining part configured to obtain a characteristic value judgement result by judging acceptability of the transmission characteristic values, based on judging values;

a first error cause analyzing means for analyzing part configured to analyze an error cause by referring to an error cause file which indicates the error causes depending on error items, using the characteristic value judgement result; and

a first improvement proposal selecting and outputting means for selecting and outputting part configured to select and output an improvement proposal by referring to an improvement proposal file which indicates improvement proposals depending on the error causes, using the error cause analyzed by said first error cause analyzing means part.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The noise countermeasure determination apparatus as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:

a waveform analyzing means for analyzing a part configured to analyze the transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit using a waveform analyzing tool;

a waveform judging means for obtaining part configured to obtain a waveform judgement result by judging acceptability of the transmission waveform, based on the judging values;

a second error cause analyzing means for analyzing part configured to analyze the error cause by referring to the error cause file, using the waveform judgement result; and

a second improvement proposal selecting and outputting means for selecting and

~~outputting part configured to select and output~~ an improvement proposal by referring to an improvement proposal file which indicates improvement proposals depending on the error causes, using the error cause analyzed by said second error cause analyzing ~~means part~~.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The error countermeasure determination apparatus as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

~~a waveform analyzing means for analyzing part configured to analyze the~~ a transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit using a waveform analyzing tool;

~~a waveform judging means for obtaining part configured to obtain a~~ waveform judgement result by judging acceptability of the transmission waveform, based on judging values;

~~an error cause analyzing means for analyzing part configured to analyze~~ an error cause by referring to an error cause file which indicates the error causes depending on error items, using the waveform judgement result; and

~~an improvement proposal selecting and outputting means for selecting and outputting part configured to select and output~~ an improvement proposal by referring to the improvement proposal file, using the error cause analyzed by said error cause analyzing ~~means part~~.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The noise countermeasure determination apparatus as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

~~a topology judging means for judging part configured to judge~~ the transmission circuit topology of the analyzing circuit, by referring to a circuit feature file which stores feature information used for judging the transmission circuit topology.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to determine a noise countermeasure with respect to an analyzing circuit ~~which that~~ is to be analyzed and is categorizable into a plurality of transmission circuit topologies depending on manners in which on wirings are connected, wherein a transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit differs depending on each of the transmission circuit topologies, said program comprising:

a circuit acceptability judging and output procedure which causes the computer to obtain an analyzing circuit judgement result by judging acceptability of the analyzing circuit based on a comparison of features of the analyzing circuit and transmission circuit topologies, and to output an improvement proposal for making the analyzing circuit closer to one of basic types of the transmission circuit topologies depending on the analyzing circuit judgement result.

12. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 11, wherein said program further comprises:

- a calculating procedure which causes the computer to calculate transmission characteristic values of the analyzing circuit based on calculation formulas depending on the judgement result of said circuit acceptability judging and output means and the transmission circuit topologies;

- a characteristic value judging procedure which causes the computer to obtain a characteristic value judgement result by judging acceptability of the transmission characteristic values, based on judging values;

- a first error cause analyzing procedure which causes the computer to analyze an error cause by referring to an error cause file which indicates the error causes depending on error items, using the characteristic value judgement result; and

- a first improvement proposal selecting and outputting procedure which causes the computer to select and output an improvement proposal by referring to an improvement proposal file which indicates improvement proposals depending on the error causes, using the error cause analyzed by said first error cause analyzing means.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 12, wherein said program further comprises:

- a waveform analyzing procedure which causes the computer to analyze ~~a~~ the transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit using a waveform analyzing tool;

- a waveform judging procedure which causes the computer to obtain a waveform judgement result by judging acceptability of the transmission waveform, based on the judging values;

- a second error cause analyzing procedure which causes the computer to analyze the error cause by referring to the error cause file, using the waveform judgement result; and

- a second improvement proposal selecting and outputting procedure which causes the computer to select and output an improvement proposal by referring to an improvement proposal file which indicates improvement proposals depending on the error causes, using the error cause analyzed by said second error cause analyzing means.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 11, wherein said program further comprises:

- a waveform analyzing procedure which causes the computer to analyze ~~a~~ the

transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit using a waveform analyzing tool;

a waveform judging procedure which causes the computer to obtaining a waveform judgement result by judging acceptability of the transmission waveform, based on judging values;

an error cause analyzing procedure which causes the computer to analyze an error cause by referring to an error cause file which indicates the error causes depending on error items, using the waveform judgement result; and

an improvement proposal selecting and outputting procedure which causes the computer to select and output an improvement proposal by referring to the improvement proposal file, using the error cause analyzed by said error cause analyzing means.

15. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 11, wherein said program further comprises:

a topology judging procedure which causes the computer to judge the transmission circuit topology of the analyzing circuit, by referring to a circuit feature file which stores feature information used for judging the transmission circuit topology.

16. (NEW) A method for determining a noise countermeasure, the method comprising:

categorizing an analyzing circuit into a plurality of transmission circuit wiring topologies, wherein a transmission waveform of the analyzing circuit differs depending on each of the topologies;

comparing the topologies; and

outputting an noise countermeasure improvement proposal based on the comparison.